

App. No. 10/511,991
Office Action Dated April 12, 2006

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes a change to Figure 7. Figure 7 is labeled as "Prior Art". This sheet, which includes Figures 6-7, replaces the original sheet including Figures 6-7.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

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REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. The drawings and claims 1, 12, 15, and 16 are amended. Claims 2-9 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amendments of claims 1, 12, 15, and 16 are supported by the subject matter of claims 7 and 8.

Figure 7 is objected to for not being labeled as "Prior Art". Figure 7 is amended to address the concerns of the Examiner. Favorable reconsideration of the drawings is requested.

Claims 1-5 and 9-11 were rejected as being anticipated by Narita (US 6,144,107). Claim 1 is amended to include the allowed subject matter of claims 7 and 8. Therefore, the rejection is rendered moot. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection as applied to the rejected claims.

Claims 1, 3-6, and 10 were rejected as being anticipated by JP04-152556. Claim 1 is amended to include the allowed subject matter of claims 7 and 8. Therefore, the rejection is rendered moot. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection as applied to the rejected claims.

Claims 12-17 were rejected as being unpatentable over Narita in view of Ogasawara (US 6,594,221). Claims 12, 15, and 16 are amended to include the allowed subject matter of claims 7 and 8. Therefore, the rejection is rendered moot. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection as applied to the rejected claims.

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In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Curtis B. Hamre, No. 29,165, at (612)455-3802

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: July 12, 2006



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Curtis B. Hamre". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Curtis B. Hamre
Reg. No.: 29,165
Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, P.C.
225 South Sixth Street
Suite 2650
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612.455.3800

DPM/CBH:mfe